



Arizona Biomedical Research Commission

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JANICE K. BREWER, GOVERNOR
WILL HUMBLE, DIRECTOR

ARIZONA BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 10, 2013

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Approved on December 12, 2013

Commissioners in Attendance:

David Engelthaler (via phone)

Wade Kartchner (via phone)

Iman Hakim – Chair (via phone)

Peter Kelly

Jeanette Shea

ABRC Staff and Visitors:

Carolyn Allen

A. J. Reynolds (via phone)

Stacey Zawel

Gloria DeShazer

Kendra Sabol (via phone)

Daniel Powell

Tracey Sotelo

1. Call to Order and Verification of Board Quorum

The Arizona Biomedical Research Commission (ABRC) meeting convened via teleconference and at the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), Arizona State Laboratory, 250 N. 17th Avenue, Igloo Conference Room, Phoenix, Arizona, on September 10, 2013.

A quorum being present, Commissioner Iman Hakim called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

2. Discussion and Action Items

a. Discuss and approve ABRC funding direction and grant application priorities.

Stacey Zawel, TSI Consulting Partners, Inc. provided an overview of the funding categories, criteria, and application priorities as previously discussed during the August 29th Commission Meeting. The Commission continued the discussion and refining of the funding direction and grant application priorities for fiscal year 2014 and 2015. Commissioner Shea motioned to accept the new ABRC Funding Categories and their respective criteria. Commissioner Kartchner seconded the motion. The vote was passed unanimously.

ABRC Funding Categories and their respective criteria:

Arizona Biomedical Early Stage Investigator Award

The Arizona Biomedical Early Stage Investigator Award is established to help a new investigator generate the preliminary data necessary to apply for a large federal grant (i.e., R01-type grant).

GRANT CRITERIA

- The award amount is up to \$75,000 per year.
- The award is renewable for up to three years.
- Basic and translational biomedical research proposals will be accepted.
- All applications will be:
 - Peer-reviewed for scientific merit
 - Reviewed by a separate Award Evaluation Committee for alignment with ABRC goals and priorities
- Arizona focused research will be given priority scoring during the evaluation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Investigator must be “new” as defined by NIH criteria.
- Investigator must not have received prior federal funding.
- Investigator must be able to demonstrate the support of a senior mentor.
- A letter of support from the investigator’s mentor and their curriculum vitae must be included with the application.
- The senior mentor must be able to demonstrate:
 - Prior mentoring of investigators
 - Past federal funding success (amounts of which need to be included in the grant application)

Arizona Biomedical Catalyst Award

The Arizona Biomedical Catalyst (“ABC”) Award is designed to support investigators whose projects were favorably reviewed by a federal granting agency (NIH, NSF, or DOD) but were just outside the respective funding score. The goal of this award is to provide funding for the investigator to generate additional, needed data, with the intent to resubmit the application to the respective federal granting agency within 12-18 months of receiving the ABC Award.

GRANT CRITERIA

- The award amount is up to \$100,000.
- The award will be granted one time only for a period of 12 months.
- Basic and translational biomedical research proposals will be accepted.
- The ABC Award applications will be reviewed by the Award Evaluation Committee only.
- Arizona focused research will be given priority scoring in the evaluation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The investigator’s declined federal application, score, and review page must be submitted along with an introductory abstract.
- All pages of the federal application must be labeled “confidential.”

Arizona Biomedical Investigator Grant

The Arizona Biomedical Investigator Grant (“AZ BIG”) is a highly competitive research grant requiring a rigorous scientific and collaborative approach. Collaboration among investigators could include:

- Within an institution
- Across institutions
- Across disciplines

GRANT CRITERIA

- The amount awarded will be \$250,000 each year.
- The award is renewable for up to three years.
- Translational biomedical research awards will be accepted.
- All applications will be:
 - Peer-reviewed for scientific merit
 - Reviewed by a separate Award Evaluation Committee for alignment with ABRC goals and priorities
- Arizona focused biomedical research will be given priority scoring in the evaluation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The principal investigator/lead institution on the application must originate in Arizona.
- All collaborators' budgets must be included with the application.
- Only one application will be allowed per project.
- All applications will be:
 - Peer-reviewed for scientific merit
 - Reviewed by a separate Award Evaluation Committee for alignment with ABRC goals and priorities
- Arizona focused research will be given priority scoring during the evaluation.

3. Call to the Public

A call to the public was made. Ms. Sabol addressed the public body saying she was very enlightened by the discussion and is anxious to find out more about the evaluation committee.

4. Next meeting date

No meeting scheduled at this time.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.